

OUR YOUNG PEOPLE

Puttin' on Style.

There seems to be a period in every girl's life when she begins wearing long dresses and spending hours before the mirror doing her hair; when she tries to put on a stiff, unnatural air, in the belief that it is grown-up and correct. She uses the longest words she can find in the dictionary, simpers and sighs, and is the despair of her sensible mother as long as the spell lasts. One dear old lady in our neighborhood calls it "puttin' on style," and that seems to be the idea the girls have until they learn it is a very foolish style.

"Now, Mary Catherine, you just let Mae alone, an' she'll come out all right. All girls have them spells," says this wise grandmother when her daughter lectures the silly maid. "Don't I remember how you called yourself 'Marie' not so awful many years ago? I found your old diary the other day when I was cleanin' the attic, an' brought it with me, thinkin' Mae might like to look over it."

But Mary Catherine puts an emphatic veto on this plan, and the diary finds a resting-place in the stove, where it is forever safe from all eyes. She thinks perhaps mother is right, and that all girls have such "spells," but she wishes her daughter would soon be her sweet, natural self again. Boys at the bashful age and girls at the silly age are equally hard to manage, but only patience will help them all over a really painful period in their lives.

Not long ago a young girl asked for verdant calico in a store, and the proprietor handed out the bright green goods without even a smile, for he has a daughter of his own who is beginning to use what he calls four-story words, so is not in the mood to laugh at other people's daughters. I was asked by a school-girl not very long ago, "Do you reside in the same locality that you did when I departed to school?" I wish I was related to her sufficiently to give her a piece of my mind, but only for a minute. She will know better in a few years, and be able to laugh when some other girl is "puttin' on style."

It would be truly delightful if the young ladies realized once for all that "house" is quite as good a word as "residence," that it is still perfectly proper to say "go to bed" instead of "retire," and that it is not an evidence of culture to use words of five syllables unless absolutely necessary. In reading the Bible and the best authors one cannot help remarking the beauty of the short, simple words used. Take the opening stanza of Tennyson's matchless poem, "In Memoriam," and see how many long words he finds it necessary to use in making his sublime declaration:

"Strong Son of God, Immortal Love,
Whom we that have not seen thy face,
Through faith; and faith alone, embrace,
Believing where we cannot prove."

Example after example might be presented to prove that simple words are best, but the habit of "puttin' on style" must be outgrown. Happy the girl who can look laughingly back at the mental picture of herself, just as she does at the old photograph, and say, "What a goose I was then!" Until that time father, mother and all the rest of the family will have to possess their souls in patience, and do the best they can with the big words and stilted airs the daughter of the house employs.

If she gets over her "spell" in a few years, no harm is done; but the trouble is, some never recover. We can all call to mind women of forty with the airs of twenty, and it is with this class that the busy world loses patience. It is one of the greatest accomplishments in the world to speak the English language correctly, but this may be done without the use of words whose meaning common people have to guess at. So let us watch ourselves closely, especially when in company with the aged or persons who have little education, and avoid the very appearance of "puttin' on style."—Hilda Richmond, in Farm and Fireside.

Our Bug Catcher.

We have a garden around our house where we try to raise fruits and flowers and peas and beans and lettuce and cucumbers and such like. But we have one trouble: there are lots of little bugs and worms that seem to like our provisions as well as we do, and that are always on hand to take their portion. And, in fact, they sometimes seem to want to take the whole.

Well, what is to be done in such a case? I will tell you what to do. We have several little bug catchers, curious creatures—in color and shape they look almost like a lump of earth, and one would hardly know them from the clods among which they travel about. The children see them about the fields or highways, and wherever they find one they speedily pick him up and invite him to make his home in our garden; and so they have their dwellings in holes and corners about the yard.

The little fellows have a queer way of catching bugs. They have a long, sticky tongue, though where they keep it is a mystery, as it seems to be longer than its owner. Perhaps they take a reef in it, as the sailors say, and so stow it away. But when one of them gets near a little bug he sits and looks at him, and winks in a kind of solemn way, till all at once his mouth opens, and quick as a flash the tongue goes out and in again, and the bug is among the missing! And then our little friend sits winking and blinking and waiting for another bug to come that way.

He is said to have an ear for music, and to do some singing in the warm spring evenings; but we do not count much on this, nor do we brag much about his good looks. His skin is not smooth, nor his complexion fair; but for real usefulness he is about the best kind of live stock we have on

our farm; and if people want to keep their gardens free from bugs, the best thing they can do is to get on friendly terms with the little toads.—Selected.

Keep a Scrap-Book.

You may make for yourself an interesting book by constructing a scrap-book devoted to one subject. One young girl with a strong interest in the life of Mary Queen Scots has collected from magazines and other sources articles, illustrated or not, as it happens, verses, pictures of buildings and localities, and portraits relating to this heroine, and has put them into single scrap-book, making a volume in which she takes much pride. When she cannot obtain a printed copy of an extract she wishes to add, she does not hesitate to copy it out neatly upon the pages of her book—which is merely a large "composition book."

The educational value of such work is by no means slight, since to know one thing well one must needs learn much of many others. Indeed, it has been said more than once that to know one thing completely we should have to know all things.

There is a good suggestion here. You will be surprised, if you begin to gather material upon some topic, to see how much is printed about your favorite subject. One word of caution. Do not choose too wide a subject. Make your limits narrow enough to be within your scope. Your scrap-book need not be upon history or literature, but it should be concerned with something worth the time you mean to spend upon it.—From "Books and Reading," in St. Nicholas.

Failure after long perseverance is much grander than never to have a striving good enough to be called a failure.—George Eliot.

Look inwards, for you always have a lasting fountain of happiness at home that will always bubble up if you will but dig for it.—Marcus Aurelius.

OATS AND RYE

to produce large, full grains require a complete fertilizer rich in

POTASH



BOOKS FREE

Write to-day for our valuable books on "Fertilization." The information contained in them means money to you. Address:

GERMAN KALI WORKS

New York—98 Nassau Street, or
Atlanta, Ga.—22½ So. Broad St.

Factory Locations

In the Southern States.

Cheap Raw Material
and Fuel.

Good Transportation
Facilities.



A SOUTHERN HOME

In a Mild and Healthful
Climate where Surroundings

Combine to make Business
Stable and Profitable.



For printed matter giving
full particulars, write

M. V. RICHARDS,

Land and Industrial
Agent Southern Rail-
way Company, Wash-
ington, D. C. : : :

**FARMERS!
ATTENTION!**

**NO LINIMENT WAS EVER
MADE THAT EQUALS**

**SLOAN'S
LINIMENT**

**FOR HORSES AND OTHER
STOCK AND ALL FAMILY USES**

It Kills Pain and Kills Germs